



MARION COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TERRY R. CURRY, PROSECUTOR

251 E. OHIO ST., SUITE 160

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

PHONE (317) 327-3522 • FAX (317) 327-3531

Media Advisory:

Oct. 6, 2014

Contact:

A.J. Deer, (317) 327-5493

Anthony.Deer@indy.gov

Michael Leffler, (317) 327-5543

Michael.Leffler@indy.gov

Community Justice Academy launches tonight

Prosecutor Curry to lead first session about the critical need for witness support

(Indianapolis, Ind.) The fourth annual Community Justice Academy will kick off tonight with a presentation by Prosecutor Terry Curry, the Marion County Prosecutor's Office announced today.

Prosecutor Curry and Indiana University Criminology Assistant Professor Natalie Kroovand Hipple will lead "Critical Need for Witness Support in Prosecution," which will share insights into the importance of witness support in prosecution. The presentation also will address the factors that cause witness support to be low in Indianapolis, as well as explore solutions that can help increase witness support in the community.

Debra Watson, the mother of a homicide victim, Thomas "D.J." Keys, will make remarks at the end of the presentation on the importance and value of working with Deputy Prosecutors.

With more than 30 years of experience as a trial lawyer, including six years as a Deputy Prosecutor in the Marion County's County Prosecutor's Office, Prosecutor Curry's diverse legal experience has given him first-hand knowledge of the importance and challenges relating to witness cooperation and support in prosecution.

Dr. Hipple's research interests include gun violence, crime surrounding drug markets, evaluation of criminal justice programs, environmental crimes, crime analysis, restorative justice, and attitudes toward crime and justice. Dr. Hipple is the co-principal investigator for a National Institute of Justice project examining non-fatal shootings across four mid-western cities, including Indianapolis.

In its fourth year, the Community Justice Academy is part of a comprehensive effort by the Marion County Prosecutor's Office to further educate and engage citizens in crime prevention strategies and the criminal justice process. Held every Monday evening in October, the topics this year include: Criminals Targeting the Baby Boomer Generation, Deadly Myths about Domestic and Dating Violence and Overcoming the Barriers of Re-Entry

What: Community Justice Academy
"Critical Need for Witness Support in Prosecution"

Who: Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry
Dr. Natalie Kroovand Hipple
Ms. Debra Watson

When: **TODAY**, Oct. 6, 2014
6:30-8 p.m.

Where: Indianapolis Public Library Services Center
2450 N Meridian St. Indianapolis

Previous Community Justice Academy topics include community policing, what to expect as a witness, bullying, gangs and domestic violence. Approximately 200 community members have participated in the academy since its inception. To participate, contact Annie Kern at (317) 327-3642 or annie.kern@indy.gov.